

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 BIB-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /028 W
----- 072802

P R 30105Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5344
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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USIAC
AGENCY FOR IPS, IBS
BANGKOK FOR COREY
CAIRO FOR ROBERTS

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: PRESS ACCREDITATATION, NASN

REF: USIA 23187-CN COLOMBO 2623-C, COLOMBO 2712-U
1. IN MEETING WITH RIDGEWAY TILLEKERATNE, CHAIRMAN,
MASS MEDIA COMMITTEE, NASC, EVENING JULY 29, IO ASKED FOR
RECONSIDERATION OF ACCREDITATION DENIAL OF IPS
CORRESPONDENT HARTER, CITING IPS ROLE AS WORLD-
WIDE DISSEMINATOR OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTING
HARTER'S EXPERTISE AS ECONOMICS WRITER. ALSO
REQUESTED FAVORABLE DECISION ON ACCREDITATION
FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS SULLIVAN AND ROBERTS,
CITING THEIR QUALIFICATIONS. INQUIRED AS TO STATUS
OWN ACCREDITATION AS RESPONSIBLE EDITOR "DARSHANA".

2. TILLEKERATNE SEEMED IMPRESSED BY CASE FOR
HARTER AND AGREED TO REVIEW EARLIER DECISION AFTER
READING HARTER BYLINERS PROVIDED. ALTHOUGH LESS
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INCLINED TOWARD TWO MORE VOA REPS, (IN ADDITION

TO COREY), HE INDICATED, AS WE SUSPECTED, THAT IF ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED BY US THEIR CHANCES BETTER. IO VOLUNTEERED PROVIDE LODGING IF NECESSARY. ON "DARSHANA" EDITOR, TILLEKERATNE NO-COMMITTAL--"DECISION OF LOCAL PRESS WILL BE MADE AFTER FOREIGN PRESS FTLED." FIFTEEN TO TWENTY-MINUTE INTERVIEW (THREE TIMES POSTPONED BY CHAIRMAN), WAS CORDIAL, IF RUSHED, AND ENDED ON FRIENDLY BASIS. TILLEKERATNE TOOK NOTES OF EACH REQUEST AND GIST OF ARGUMENTS.

3. MATTERS DESCUSSED SHOULD BE DECIDED IN VERY NEAR FUTURE AS FINAL ACCRIDITATION LIST OF ALL FOREIGN JOURNALISTS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETER BY EARLY NEXT WEEK.

BELIEVE ARGUMENTS HAD POSITIVE INFLUENCE BUT NO FIRM ASSESSMENT POSSIBLE. WE WILL ACCOMMODATE IPS AND IBS REPS IF NECESSARY IN USIS RESIDENCES. ADVISE ANY COMMUNICATION FROM COMMITTEE.

4. FOR HONG KONG: IO EXPLAINED SHAPLEN AND REYNOLDS CONCERN: TILLEKERATNE NOTED AND PROMISED DECISION SOON. NO ASSESSMENT CAN BE MADE AS TO OUTCOME OF DECISION. ADVISE ANY COMMUNICATION TO THEM FROM COMMITTEE.

VON GLATZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: THE PRESS, NONALIGNED NATIONS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COLOMB02730
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760294-1165
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976076/aaaaaeov.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COLOMBO 2712
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS ACCREDITATION, NASN
TAGS: SOPN, CE
To: USIA HONG KONG
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006